TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION

OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

DATE:

25 Sept 96

TO:

Wayne Everett (TN-DSF) /Nestor Young (EPA)

FROM:

Ferman Miller

SUBJECT:

Re Community Relations Plan stated in KATS (4/29/96)

(Sequence of Events at the Howard High Landfill site in Chattanooga)

Since the voluntary order was signed for the Howard High Landfill site #33-606, the City of Chattanooga has taken the lead in remediation of this site as guided by the six tasks, identified by Mr. D. Cox and Mr. D. Vanhook in a 1995 sampling investigation of problem areas.

The three principals thus far in the Howard site are Jack Marcellis, Gene (Bunky) Wright- in Public Works, and Mike McMahan-attorney. In the voluntary order, there are items related to community involvement and notification. The Tenn. Division of Superfund expects these tasks to be done on schedule. The City held a public meeting at the Howard School library, attended by CFO staff. Fact Sheets were given by the City. FDM attended followup meeting at Mr. Wright's office and at City Hall with interested parties.

The City (mayor and councilmen) arranged for Mr. Safay of ATSDR to meet with concerned people at the same City Hall meeting mentioned above. FDM has kept WSE and Mr. Young informed as developments broke.

After the first public meeting, the CFO was contacted by several Chattanooga media for input. Media involved have included TV, newspapers, and radio. WSE and FDM have tried to answer their questions responsibly.

As of September 23, we are waiting for the review of the project from ATSDR. They may recommend not doing the project, delaying the project until summer, or doing more sampling. These are some of the options I have heard.

The public also want control via approval from various groups and individuals. They insist on being involved from the beginning. I see this as causing some differences because of various agenda and criteria for protecting health, safety and environment.

FDM/HHL925

